

**Workers' Compensation Advisory Board
October 14, 2008 OPEN Meeting Minutes
Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, Springfield
1:30 p.m.**

Those present at the meeting were:

Gerald Jutila, Chairman of the Commission

Michael Carrigan, Illinois AFL-CIO

Dave Menchetti, Cullen, Haskins, Nicholson, & Menchetti

Mark Flannery, Caterpillar, Inc.

Kim Presbrey, Presbrey & Associates

David Vite, Illinois Retail Merchants Assoc.

Members attending via conference call:

Kim Maisch, National Federation of Independent Business

Jerry Roper, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

Also Present

Amy Masters, Secretary of the Commission

Dennis R. Ruth, Former Chairman of the Commission

James Jordan, Division of Insurance

Francis "Buzz" Walsh, Division of Insurance Fraud Unit Supervisor

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Chairman Jutila called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting held on August 20, 2008, were approved.

Copies of the Division of Insurance Fraud Unit Annual Report were distributed to board members. Mr. Francis "Buzz" Walsh, Supervisor of the Fraud Unit provided an overview of the annual report and fraud unit to the board regarding investigations, case referrals, prosecutions, and staffing. Mr. Walsh answered questions from board members regarding fraud investigations and cases. Mr. James Jordan indicated he would follow up with board member requests regarding web site link and request for article regarding fraud unit.

Next, Chairman Jutila provided a personnel update about the Insurance Compliance Division in regards to the 3 new investigators hired and will be based in Chicago, Springfield, and Collinsville offices.

Chairman Jutila informed the board that the Governor recently signed legislation to sweep state funds, and \$500,000 will be swept from the Injured Workers' Benefit Fund.

He noted that currently there are 21 claimants for the FY08 with benefit awards totally approximately \$800,000. Due to the Injured Worker Benefit Fund having a current balance of \$1.8 million, there should be sufficient funds available to cover all claimants for FY08.

Former Chairman Dennis Ruth provided an update about the 3 new medical fee schedules and proposed rules and guidelines recently submitted to JCAR for hearing.

Upon motion, the board went into closed meeting at 2:35 p.m.

The board returned to open meeting at 3:18 p.m.

The board agreed to set the next meeting for Wednesday, November 19, at 1:30 p.m. in the Springfield Commission office.

Upon motion, the Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.